

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 13, 1844.

William Buckminster, Editor.

PRIVATE MAIIS.

A few such cases as the following will be likely to open the eyes of our wise men at Washington. Judge Sprague has decided, as every Judge must, that you cannot enforce a law, if you should make one, to authorize stage drivers or car conductors to search passengers to ascertain if they have smuggled letters in their pockets. Put your fares lower, Uncle Sam, or competition will ruin your trade. Farmers' produce is down to the very lowest and you must not expect our custom unless you carry as cheap as other carriers will.

In the case against W. B. Kimball, on Wednesday, for a violation of the Post Office laws Judge Sprague gave the cause to the jury. After giving a brief general statement of the principal facts in the case, he remarked that since the enactment of the post office laws, methods of conveying letters had been introduced, which were not then anticipated—and he cited several authorities for asserting that the provisions of an act should be construed by the strict language of the same. He concluded his opinion, of about twenty minutes, by stating that the owners of a railroad or steamboat were not liable to the penalty, provided a passenger conveyed a letter by means of the same without their knowledge; that the procer, or the person who sends the letter, is not liable, if the owners are not; and that establishing a railroad car or steamboat, is not establishing a *fool* post, according to the statute.

The jury returned a verdict that the defendant, William B. Kimball, is *not guilty* of the charge preferred.

NEW YORK CITY ELECTION. An entire new party, called the *American Republicans*, has sprung up within a year past in that city and has grown so rapidly that it has set both the old parties aside. The N. Y. papers of Thursday announce that JAMES HARPER, the candidate of this new party for Mayor of the city, has been chosen by a plurality of 4000 votes over the highest of the opposing candidates, and probably by a majority of all the votes.

This party takes a decided stand against the corrupt and corrupting influence of *foreigners* in that city; the English and Scotch settlers are with them, while the Irish and Dutch are opposed. It is hoped that the *great city* will be governed better than it has been for years past.

APPEAL IN PHILADELPHIA. A strolling villain, calling his name John Parkin, stabbed James Lenmon and killed him instantly in his own house. Lenmon's wife was present and a son and daughter. The little son, ten years old, after his father's fall, assisted Parkin with a broomstick, and the murderer stabbed the boy in the thigh, and knocked him down. He then rushed into the street, assaulting the wife and daughter, who were in his way, and was seized after he had wounded a number of his pursuers.

The provocation was, a refusal to make immediate payment for mending a clock. He regretted he had not killed the wife and child.

BEGGING. A Deputation from America is traversing Scotland, soliciting funds to build a College in one of the Western States; while a Deputation of Scotch clergymen is at the same time traversing America for funds to support a Free Church in Scotland. When \$50,000 have been collected in Scotland, and as much here, the two Deputations can exchange drafts and hand over in home funds.

ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP A FREE BLACKMAN. Frederick Hughes has been arrested at Pittsburg for an attempt to kidnap a colored man of Brownsville, named Parrott. Hughes pretended that Parrott was a runaway slave, he threatened to shoot the negro if he resisted. H. has been arrested and committed for trial. The penalty for the crime is five to twelve years imprisonment.

THE WEATHER. The weather, for some days, has been warm and comfortable and no fires have been kindled in a great number of offices in the city. Young farmers will think this a promising indication for the season, while old ones will shake their heads and sound an alarm for the frosts that may come in May, and cut off the fruits. Trust in Providence and sow your grain.

FROM ST. DOMINGO. Accounts to 21st March, that the insurrection had a force of 10,000 men, and about 5000 of the slaves. The new governor chosen by the Spanish population, had just arrived from Curacao, and was acting as Generalissimo of all the forces.

There has been some skirmishing on the lines between the belligerents. A number has been killed, the particulars of which had not transpired.

JUDICIAL DIGNITY. Judge Grier, of Pittsburg, has presented the Attornor of that city for calling him an ass. The defendant stands in a critical position, for if Judge Grier should be asssed the defendant will be sure to be convicted, according to the law maxima, that the greater the truth the greater the libel.

ANOTHER FIRE. About 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening, a bright light was seen in a north-easterly direction, occasioned by the burning of a barn containing a large quantity of hay, belonging to Capt. John Lovell, of Bostwick.

The alarm was given about a quarter past nine, and Mr. Marsh's house, whose barn was burned last Sunday evening. The fire was occasioned by the blasting of a rock. [Salem Register.]

THE TRIAL OF THE GORDONS FOR THE MURDER OF MR. SPRAGUE. commenced at Providence on Monday. John and William, who are charged in the indictment as principals, are to be tried together. The trial of Nicholas, charged as accessory before the fact, will take place subsequently. A jury has already been empaneled in the town of Danvers.

ANEXATION. The Richmond Enquirer has received from Gen. Jackson a letter strongly recommending the policy of taking Texas into our family for fear that some other nation may do it if we lose this opportunity.

ON SUNDAY. On Sunday evening a man was knocked down in one of the public streets of New York and his watch and money were taken from him. He afterwards found the city "watch," but not his own.

A WRITER IN THE MEDICAL JOURNAL. A writer in the Medical Journal, not a barber, nor a broker, comes out against shaving. There is one kind that is irreligious, without any doubt.

A YOUNG WOMAN. A young woman is declared to resemble a *dead* person, because she ought to be "settled off," as soon as she "comes to maturity."

IT IS SAID. It is said that the vote in the recent election of city officers in New York exceeds that of the whole State of Connecticut.

A MOST VIOLENT GALE. A most violent gale passed over Delaware on the 18th ult., blowing down chimneys and houses.

ELECTION IN ALBANY. At the Charter election in Albany, Mr. Humphrey, the Whig candidate, was elected.

HYPNOSEOPHIA. A child in Baltimore, bitten recently by a mad dog, died last week of the disease.

DIRECTIONS TO YOUNG WRITERS. When you indite a letter, containing a whole page, you should make as much as one period before you come to the bottom. You may get out of breath and your readers into a fog when you make no stops.

A large, or capital letter, at the beginning of a sentence, looks much better than a small letter; it is a kind of handle, and a large handle is seen quicker than a small one.

When you have finished, stop short, and make a period, thus (.)—not letting your pen run on after your ideas have run out.

Some writers, like some speakers, never know when to stop. They fear a period as they would a pest, lest it might jolt something out of places.

THE DORR REBELLION. The Madison contains a message of President Tyler, over a column long, (in answer to a resolution of the House,) relative to the Dorr rebellion in Rhode Island. The amount of it is, that the President did little or nothing by way of interference, except to strengthen the garrison at Fort Adams in Newport harbor, by way of precaution.

ERRORS OF THE PRESS. Some will creep into our columns in spite of our efforts to prevent them. Mr. Johnson's correspondence "C." said, "On our first page our correspondent 'C.' said, 'The 13th line, "Perhaps the soil loses some of its sub-serveness," not leaves some, &c.—And in our comment on the article, in the 9th line from the bottom, the little word *not*, had no business there—it altered the reading materially."

THE MARKETS. Five loads of hay were in the market yesterday noon. See prices current. Good potatoes bring good prices—from 40 to 50 cents in the street from wagons.

Butter commands much better prices than it has done. Some in flocks have brought more than 20 cents—the same was sold at 12 last fall.

FIRE AT CHELSEA. A carpenter's shop was entirely destroyed on Wednesday. The upper part was occupied by Wellington & Stanton, carpenters.

A large frame building, used for storing ice, situated on Devens' wharf, Charlestown, was destroyed by fire shortly before 11 o'clock Monday night.

MORE PORK. Mr. Jonathan Buxton, Jr., of Danvers, has just killed two hogs that weigh 1,036 pounds, and has sold them at 6 1/2 cents. This pays tolerably well at present prices of grain.

ELIJAH SPRAGUE. The democratic candidate for Mayor of Brooklyn, N. Y. was elected on Tuesday by 800 plurality.

ICP NEIGHBOR POST. says, "A man has been turned out of a temperance society for eating corned beef."

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FRAMINGHAM. April 1st, 1844.

MOVEMENTS OF MR. TYLER. Mr. Robert Tyler, son of the President, has been here for a few days, and we regret exceedingly to learn that he has been engaged in a grand effort to bring in the officers into a great effort to secure a convention for the admission of his father to the Union. The collection of understand he offered to a gentleman upon these conditions; and the offer was, as ought to be, rejected.

The New York Custom house is a post, now, of vast responsibility, the revenue collected here being a million and a half a month. The establishment was never in a better condition, nor the treasury more satisfactorily done than now. To such an extent, however, has the revenue increased in the United States, in terms which no honorable man can comply with, is evidence enough what sort of a man he must be who will be appointed.

The office of District Attorney is offered in the same way. The post office is ready to be com-

missioned to a gentleman who is to be appointed.

THE COMPLETE FLORIST. This is a Manual containing directions for the management of green-house plants, the flower garden, &c., with descriptions of plants and the worty culture. It is a republication of an English work, adapted to this climate and will be found very convenient. Price 25 cents.—Wm. D. Ticknor & Co., ite.

ELIJAH SPRAGUE. A dog at the south, lost his place for learning to smoke a cigar.

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LATER FROM TEXAS. The New Orleans Picayune has Galveston dates to the 28th—received by the steamer New York.

The Mexican Government, it is said, very much disturbed at the prospect of the annexation of Texas to the United States, and well informed persons in Mexico believe that every effort will be made to prevent it. To make it a condition on the acknowledgment of the independence of Texas, that she shall remain separate from the rest of the United States.

The Commissioners to Mexico have returned, they reached Galveston on the 29th. The precise terms and conditions for the continuance and termination of the armistice have not been settled, nor perhaps will be made public except from Washington.

FROM BUENOS AIRES. We are indebted to Capt. Hadley, of the brig Cumberland, for Buenos Ayres papers to the 13th of February inclusive.

BUSINESS ENOUGH. The Grand Jury at Concord, N. H., returned week before last one hundred and eighteen seven grand juries, and the same number of petit juries, and a coroner's inquest.

THE HOUSE. The indictments for assault and battery with intent to commit rape—passing counterfeit money—larceny—against towns for neglect to keep roads in repair—for keeping bowing alleys, and for retailing spirituous liquors without license.

Mr. Coles made a strenuous effort against the bill but it was passed by a tremendous majority.

THE JOINT RESOLUTION. The Joint Resolution from the Senate, fixing the 27th of May, as the day for the termination of this session, was taken up, and on motion of Mr. Dromgoole, postponed to the 13th of May, yeas 100, nays 26.

IN SENATE. Mr. Evans offered a Resolution calling on the President of the United States, if not incompatible with the public interest, to furnish any and all correspondence between this and the British Government, in reference to their constituents. The President is called upon to indicate any purpose or the absence of purpose on the part of England to interfere with any form of war.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT. The British Government is to be demanded for compensation for the loss of the ship *Concord*, which was captured by the rebels.

THE HOUSE. The bill was introduced by Mr. Tibbetts, and it was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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